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and we also see the device form a rebus or riddle. Of this last description was a brass or bronze signet ring found in or near Kells Priory, and at present in the possession of Mrs. Perry, sen., of Newtown Park, County Dublin. The device on this seal seems to represent the truncated stem of a tree, with two lopped branches, one at either side; and over it the word "*veri*" in Gothic letters. Mr. Graves observed that he had not been able to interpret this seal, and he had submitted it to several persons of skill in such matters, but without success. Another brass ring was found some years since amongst the ruins of Kells Priory, and is at present in the possession of the Rev. William Dobbyn, Clonmore Glebe, Pilltown; by whose kindness this notice of its discovery was laid before the Society, together with a sketch of this interesting antique, full size. The hoop of the ring was of such large dimensions, being one inch diameter in the clear, that it seemed intended to be worn on the thumb. Mr. Dobbyn seemed to think that the letters on the signet were W.P.; but he (Mr. Graves) was of opinion that the last letter was the old or Lombardic form of the letter D, combined in a cypher with the W. which letter was ornamented above with three fleurs-de-lis. Mr. Graves exhibited a silver matrix of a seal found in the cleft of a rock on the school-house lands of Ballyroan in the Queen's County; it bore an armorial device of a tree, over which was a demy savage man as crest. It was of modern date, and perhaps belonged to the latter end of the seventeenth century. Mr. Cooke, of Parsonstown, also forwarded for exhibition the seal of O'Kenedy, of Ormond, in the County Tipperary. It bore a rude representation of a bird, and round the edge the legend, "*SIGILLVM. DONATI. O KENEDIG.*" The form of the letters refer the date of this seal to the fourteenth century.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS ANTIQUITIES.

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The Rev. Mr. Graves exhibited a large ecclesiastical banner, which had been recently discovered in Kilkenny under very curious circumstances. Not long since the present lessee of the old house of the Rothe family in Coal-market, alluded to in the article on Street Architecture, had occasion to take down one of the partitions. On the removal of the external wainscot, and between it and the studding, was discovered a green silk banner folded up into a small compass, and in excellent preservation. It measures four feet ten inches long, by three feet four inches wide, is bordered with variegated silk fringe and has a list running across the top, whereby it was attached to the cross on which it was carried; on one side is painted the coronation of the Vir-

gin, on the other an *ostensorium* containing the Host, and surrounded by angels. Although the drawing of the figures in the coronation of the Virgin is faulty, yet some portions of it, especially the head of the Saviour, are well painted. Beneath it are depicted the city arms, viz., a castle looped and crenelled with warders on the towers and at the gates. These figures were represented in the steel cap of the period of Charles I., which rendered it extremely probable that this banner was contemporary with the Confederate Catholics, and was borne by some of the city guilds in the religious processions of that period. And we may also perhaps be allowed to conjecture that it was hidden when the City of the Confederates was compelled to yield to the victorious arms of Cromwell, at which time the discovery of such a relic would bring down heavy pains and penalties on its possessor. The only way in which the banner could have been placed in the position in which it was found, would be by slipping it down over the top of the wainscot, between it and the studding; as the panel in front shewed no marks of having been ever removed. The Rev. Mr. Graves also exhibited a gold ring of small size, which had been found behind the same wainscot, but not in any way connected with the banner. The ring was discovered at the bottom of the partition, and might have rolled in through some crevice. It is rather elegant in design, and weighs but little, being hollow. On the inside the following legend is engraved—" *Let vertue be thy guide.*" The Rev. Mr. Graves stated that from the workmanship of the ring, and the style of the letters, he would be inclined to refer it to the same date as the banner. From its small size it was probably a woman's ring. No other object of interest was discovered except a leaden penny of James II, with a small piece of copper in the centre. The date is 1690.

Mr. Graves also brought under notice a valuable and authentic portrait of Bishop Rothe, together with several articles of church plate of that period connected with him (some by tradition, and others by existing inscriptions) in the possession of Mrs. Bryan of Jenkinstown. The portrait represented a venerable old man and bore the following inscriptions evidently contemporary with the picture, under a shield of the arms of Rothe—"DAVID EPISCOPUS OSSORIENSIS. Anno Ætatis, 72, A.D. 1644.—HOMO PUTREDO ET FILIUS HOMINIS VERMIS, Job. 25." Likewise a quotation from the sermon on the mount—"BEATI PACIFICI QUONIAM FILII DEI VOCABUNTUR;" and a passage from the 38th psalm. The painting was in excellent preservation, and well executed as a work of art. In the same collection was also a portrait of the Roman Catholic Dean of Ossory of the same period, as appeared by the following inscription on the picture:—"THOMAS ROTHE PROTONOTARIUS APOSTOLICUS PRIOR COMMEND. MONASTERII STI IOANNIS EVANGELISTE KILKEN. ET DECANUS ECCLESIE CATHEDRALIS STI. CANICI OSSORIEN. DIOECESIS, ÆTATIS SUÆ 64. ANNO 1645." This individual was no doubt a relative of the Bishop,

who is stated by Harris to have resided at the Deanery House at the period of the Confederate Catholics, the Episcopal residence being in a ruinous condition. Mrs. Bryan also possessed many other objects of interest connected with Bishop Rothe; of these the first he should notice was a large silver monstrance or ostensorium. It was most elaborately wrought, and had been gilded. Round the base was the following inscription in Roman capitals:—“DAVID ROTHE EPISCOPUS OSSORIEN. ME FIERI FECIT ANNO 1644. ORA PRO CLERO ET POPULO DILECCESSIS OSSORIENSIS.” There were, beside this, several highly interesting articles of church plate, comprising no less than five chalices and other articles, some of which there could be little doubt were used in the celebration of religious service at the Cathedral of St. Canice during the sway of the Confederate Catholic Council in Kilkenny, but had been removed and concealed at the approach of Cromwell. One of the chalices was of most elegant form and elaborately chased.—Round the foot was the following inscription:—“ORA PRO D. NICHOLAS COWLY. PROTONOTARIO APOSTOLICO, QUI ME FIERI FECIT IN USUM D. JACOBI CLARIPROT, 1640.” Another small but elegantly formed chalice bore round its base an inscription, engraved in a running hand, to the following effect:—“*Jacobus Dwyer me fieri fecit 3 die Feb 1652. Kilkenny.*” The characters of this inscription were similar to those engraved on the gold ring, which had been discovered in the old mansion of the Rothes.—A pair of curious silver spurs, an illuminated religious MS. and several reliquaries and crosses, both in gold and silver, traditionally said to have belonged to Bishop Rothe, were preserved in the Bryan family, who also preserved several ancient embroidered vestments, and other matters connected with Church furniture. Amongst these latter the most ancient was a small embroidered cushion used for covering the chalice. Its design was the crucifixion, and underneath was a scroll with the following legend in old characters, “JOHANNA FILIA COMITIS DESMONIÆ”—also round the border, in large Roman letters, “MISERE MEI JESUS NASARENUS REX JUDÆORUM”—Johanna was the only daughter and heir general of the Earl of Desmond, and was espoused to James, ninth Earl of Ormonde, who died in 1546. These, with many other objects of interest, had descended in the Bryan family for many generations, and as that family was connected in the female line with the Rothes, it became the depository of the very curious relics referred to, by inheritance.—There could, therefore, be no doubt of their genuineness.

Dr. Cane communicated to the Society that a banner shaped like a streamer, and having the Virgin and Child painted, with considerable artistic skill, on either side, was long preserved at the Black Abbey, but coming into the possession of Mr. B. Scott, King-street, it was by that gentleman, he believed, recently presented to the Provincial of the Dominican Order. He also exhibited an ancient bronze spur, which was beautifully chased, and had probably been formerly gilt. Although

the rowel, which had been of iron, was gone, it was evident from the groove which had been made for its reception that it must have been of great size. This relic had been found in the Bregagh River, near the old High-town Gate of Kilkenny, whilst the bed of the stream was being deepened in 1847.

Lady Elizabeth Butler sent for exhibition two objects of antiquity, which were, together with a small silver coin of Edward I., found in clearing away the stones and rubbish from the ruins of the old Castle of Garryricken. They consisted of a small pendant ornament, probably intended to be attached to a bridle, of copper gilt, the workmanship and design (which latter consisted of a small cross or quarterfoil suspended, and moveable within a rim of nearly the same form) indicated a skilful artificer; also, a small tube of ivory about two inches long, rudely ornamented with incised lines of scroll work, and which appeared to have formed part of some musical instrument.

The Rev. P. Moore informed the Society that he had seen, some years ago, a small but beautifully finished steel battle-axe, with an iron handle not more than about twelve inches long, which had been dug up at a place called *the Ridhia* in the neighbourhood of Thomastown in the County of Kilkenny. Many human skeletons and fragments of arms, as well as coins of the Confederate Catholics, were frequently dug up there, and the place had all the appearance of having been the site of a great battle; but tradition and history were both silent on the subject.

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## ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA.

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Page 8, line 22, for *Richard Purcell O'Gorman* read *Nicholas Purcell O'Gorman*.

Page 17, lines 32 and 36, for *carn* read *cairn*.

Page 18, lines 11 and 16, for *carn* read *cairn*.

Ib., line 41, for *outstriped* read *outstripped*.

Page 19, line 18, for *hand* read *hands*.

Page 21, line 10, for *carn* read *cairn*.

Page 24, line 15, for *was* read *were*.

Page 29, line 15, after *eighteen*, add *to two feet six by twelve*.

Page 48, line 3, for *santi* read *sancti*.

Page 55, line 27, for *intermarrige* read *intermarriage*.

Page 63, lines 23 and 27, strike out the comma after *prosapia* and *colligendum*.

Page 64, line 28, for *consequenee* read *consequence*.

Page 76, line 25, after *grantee of the crown*, add—*Indeed with regard to the Lucas Archer referred to by Mr. Cooke, he was not recognised by the crown, neither did he reside at Holy Cross, as appears by the following extract from the Regal Visitation of 1615 (Library R. I. Academy):—"Sir Lucas Archer, Titular Abbott of the Holy Crosse, and the Pope's Vicar-Generall of the Diocesse of Ossory, Archdeacon of the same, dwelling at Kilkenny."*

Page 80, line 41, for *Epipheny* read *Epiphany*.

Ib., line 43, for *assencion* read *ascension*.

Page 89, line 15, after *quarterly*, add—*From a perfect impression of this seal, obtained from Mr. A. Murphy, King-street, Kilkenny, it appeared that the inscription was as follows—SIGILLVM. GARGIANI. GBVWV̄CĒSIS.—the meaning of which was very obscure ; it appeared, however, to have no reference to the Dominican Abbey. The inscription was in Lombardic characters, and the seal seemed to be of the fifteenth century.*

Page 90, line 13, for *mountings* read *mounting*.

Page 91, line 27, for *refer* read *refers*.